

PATENT  
Docket No.: AFAN-003

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2878 Examiner: Unknown  
Serial No. 09/817,361 Filed: March 20, 2001

In re Application of: Natalia I. Afanassieva

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SPECTROSCOPIC ANALYSIS OF HUMAN  
OR ANIMAL TISSUE OR BODY FLUIDS

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to Box Non-Fee Amendment, Director of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 17, 2001. Signed Carolyn Thompson  
Carolyn Thompson

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Director of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Page 1, line 9, after the section heading RELATED APPLICATIONS, please delete the paragraph beginning with the words "This application is a continuation-in-part..." and ending with "...filed October 13, 1998.", and insert the following replacement paragraph:

--This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/172,186, filed October 13, 1998, now abandoned, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/063,054, filed October 27, 1997.--

In the Claims

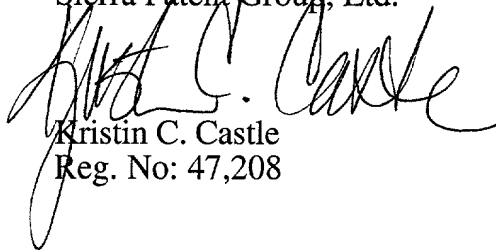
Kindly amend claim 8 as follows:

8. (Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said comparing comprises comparing an area under a peak in said at least one selected absorption band in said first Fourier transform infrared spectrum to an area under a peak in said at least one selected absorption band in said second Fourier transform infrared spectrum.

**REMARKS**

Consideration and an early allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sierra Patent Group, Ltd.



Kristin C. Castle  
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Dated: July 17, 2001

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## APPENDIX 1

## MARKED-UP SPECIFICATION

This application is a continuation-in-part of [co-pending application serial number] U.S. Application No. 09/172,186, filed October 13, 1998[.], now abandoned, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/063,054, filed October 27, 1997.

## MARKED-UP CLAIMS

8. (Amended) The method of claim [58] 6, wherein said comparing comprises comparing an area under a peak in said at least one selected absorption band in said first Fourier transform infrared spectrum to an area under a peak in said at least one selected absorption band in said second Fourier transform infrared spectrum.